Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 20518 090907Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----059812 101030Z /13

R 090902Z SEP 78 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3504 INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 20518

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS SO AU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN ARMS SALE TO SOMALIA

REF: STATE 223933

POLOFF PAID CALL ON AUSTRIAN CHARGE SEPTEMBER 8 AND GAVE HIM JOHN VINCENT'S NAME PER REF SUGGESTION. CHARGE APPRECIATED THIS INFORMATION. HOWEVER, HE HAD ALREADY REPLIED TO HIS GOVERNMENT THAT GIVEN CONTINUED SOMALI INVOLVEMENT IN OGADEN, HE BELIEVED SOMALIA ASSURANCES NOT TO PROVIDE OGADEN INSURGENTS WITH WEAPONS SOLD BY AUSTRIAN FIRM WERE NOT CREDIBLE. HE RECOMMENDED AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT DECIDE NOT TO GO THROUGH WITH WEAPONS SALE. HIS RESPONSE WAS BASED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH FRG AND FRENCH EMBASSIES AS WELL AS WITH U.S. INTERESTINGLY, HE WAS ESPECIALLY IMPRESSED BY FRANK, IF INJUDICIOUS, CONFIRMATION FROM UNIDENTIFIED SOMALI EMBASSY OFFICER THAT AUSTRIAN WEAPONS WOULD PROBABLY WIND UP IN OGADEN. CHARGE NOT AWARE OF ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF ISSUE BUT BELIEVES IT LIKELY HIS GOVERNMENT WILL REACH NEGATIVE DECISION. MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY SALES

Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 sep 1978 Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO20518
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Format: TEL

Film Number: D780368-1205

From: CAIRO **Handling Restrictions:**

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780983/aaaacqxd.tel

Line Count: 46 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 586f7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION SS

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Reference: 78 STATE 223933

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 31 may 2005 Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1490675 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN ARMS SALE TO SOMALIA

TAGS: MASS, SO, AU

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/586f7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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